

Please reject NAB's petition 04-160. I have been an XM radio subscriber for nearly 2 years now. I gave up on local radio several years before that because I found that I could find neither the music content nor the news content that I wanted to listen to.

XM radio has provided very valuable competition by offering what local radio has refused to offer. A great variety of content of music (top 80s, classic rock, 80s heavy metal, showtunes are some that I listen to personally on a regular basis) as well as great content of each of those genres. I also have found enjoyment in other content I never imagined to find on radio ever, including dedicated comedy channels, Radio Disney for the kids, talk shows not carried locally, and instant weather and traffic. The last being one of the more valuable channels to me. I have a long commute every day, and waiting 10 minutes between traffic updates (the best that is offered locally) is unacceptable. XM radio offers such great content that I'm actually paying for it...that alone should tell you the value they bring.

I am very disappointed that the local broadcasters (via NAB) have decided to work on restricting the competition in lieu of stepping up the value and diversity of their content. This is NOT how competition is supposed to work. When a new competitor comes into town offering better services, you need to respond by offering just as good services (ideally even better services). If you won't or can't provide comparable services, why is that your competitor's problem?